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) ss:
CITY OF MONMOUTH JUNCTION, in the COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX)

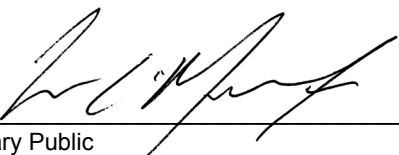
I, Wayne Sidor, being duly sworn, depose and say that I am the Advertising Clerk of
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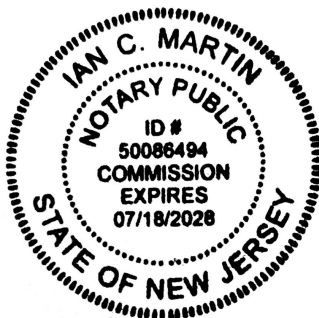
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and that the foregoing statements are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Sworn to
before me this
11th day of
July 2025

Wayne Sidor


Notary Public



EU Lays Out AI Guidelines for Companies

Commission and member states have to decide if they will endorse the code

By MAURO ORRU

The European Union said it published the final version of a voluntary code of practice for general-purpose artificial intelligence that is meant to make it easier for companies to comply with AI legislation in the bloc.

The European Commission, the EU's executive arm, said the code was developed by 13 independent experts, based on input from more than 1,000 small and medium-size enterprises, academics, civil society groups and providers of the large language models that underpin AI.

Now, the commission and

the EU's 27 member states will have to sift through the code and decide whether to endorse it. Model providers will then have the option to sign the code, which EU officials said would help companies to comply with the bloc's wide-ranging legislation on the technology.

EU lawmakers approved the AI Act last year. The law bans certain uses of AI, rolls out new transparency guidelines and requires risk assessments for AI systems that are deemed high-risk.

Rules on general-purpose AI will be effective for companies as of Aug. 2. The commission said its AI office, a body that oversees implementation of the law, would enforce rules on new AI models after a year, and two years later for existing models. Companies that breach the law risk fines of up to 7% of their annual global



Henna Virkkunen, EU executive vice president.

revenue.

The code includes guidance on safety and security to help companies mitigate risks when developing advanced AI models, a section on copyright material as well as a chapter

on transparency.

Signatories to the code of practice will benefit from a lower administrative burden and extra legal certainty to prove they comply with the AI Act compared with companies

that opt not to sign the code. Henna Virkkunen, EU executive vice president for tech sovereignty, security and democracy, said signing the code would secure a clear route to compliance with the law.

A spokesperson for OpenAI said the ChatGPT maker was reviewing the code before deciding whether to sign it. News Corp, owner of Dow Jones Newswires and The Wall Street Journal, has a content-licensing partnership with OpenAI.

A spokesperson for Alpha-bet's Google said the company would review the code. "Europeans should have access to first-rate, secure AI models when they become available, and an environment that promotes innovation and investment."

The EU's push to regulate AI has drawn criticism from business leaders and politi-

cians alike. Chief executives of European companies, including Mistral AI, ASML Holding and Airbus, recently asked the commission to delay enforcement of the law, saying overlapping and complex regulations were preventing the EU from becoming a leader in AI.

Earlier this year, U.S. Vice President JD Vance told world leaders gathered in Paris for an AI summit that "excessive regulation of the AI sector could kill a transformative industry just as it's taking off."

Commission officials acknowledged that regulatory fragmentation across the EU's 27 countries and inadequate financing were holding back growth for startups. The EU in May laid out plans to slash regulation and set up a special fund to attract tech startups as it plays catch-up with the U.S. on financing and innovation.

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BANKRUPTCIES

IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

In re: FRANCHISE GROUP, INC., Chapter 11 Case No. 24-12480 (LSS) et al., Debtors. (Jointly Administered)

NOTICE OF (I) ENTRY OF THE TOPCO CONFIRMATION ORDER (II) OCCURRENCE OF EFFECTIVE DATE WITH RESPECT TO FREEDOM VCM HOLDINGS, LLC, AND (III) RELATED BAR DATES

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT on July 1, 2025, the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware (the "Bankruptcy Court") confirmed the Ninth Amended Joint Chapter 11 Plan of Franchise Group, Inc. and its Debtor Affiliates (Docket No. 1454) (the "Plan") with respect to Freedom VCM Holdings, LLC ("TopCo"), which was attached as Exhibit A to the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order Confirming the Ninth Amended Joint Chapter 11 of Freedom VCM Holdings, LLC (Docket No. 1682) (the "TopCo Confirmation Order").

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE THAT the Effective Date of the Plan with respect to TopCo occurred on July 3, 2025.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE THAT pursuant to Article 7 of the Plan, unless otherwise provided by a Final Order of the Bankruptcy Court, all Proofs of Claim with respect to Claims arising from the rejection of Executive Contracts or Unexpired Leases, pursuant to the Plan or the TopCo Confirmation Order, if any, must be filed with the Claims Agent within thirty (30) days after the date of the effectiveness of the rejection of the applicable Executive Contract or Unexpired Lease. All Allowed Claims arising from the rejection of TopCo's Executive Contracts or Unexpired Leases (if any) shall constitute General Unsecured Claims against TopCo and shall be treated in accordance with Article V of the Plan and the applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code and the Bankruptcy Rules.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE THAT, except as otherwise provided by the TopCo Confirmation Order, the Plan, or a Final Order of the Bankruptcy Court, the deadline for filing requests for payment of Administrative Expense Claims against TopCo shall be August 4, 2025 (the "Administrative Bar Date"), which is the first Business Day that is thirty (30) days after the Effective Date, provided that, for the avoidance of doubt, the Administrative Bar Date with respect to the Confirmation Debts of July 7, 2025, if a Holder of an Administrative Expense Claim against TopCo (other than U.S. Trustee Fees) that is required to, but does not, file and serve a request for payment of such Administrative Expense Claim by the Administrative Bar Date, such Administrative Expense Claim shall be forever barred and discharged. If for any reason any such Administrative Expense Claims is incapable of being forever barred and disallowed, then the Holder of such Claim shall in no event have recourse to any property to be distributed pursuant to the Plan.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE THAT, pursuant to the Plan, the deadline to file final requests for payment of Professional Fee Claims against TopCo is August 18, 2025 (the "Professional Fee Application Deadline"), which is the first Business Day that is forty-five (45) days after the Effective Date of the Plan with respect to TopCo, provided that, for the avoidance of doubt, the Professional Fee Application Deadline with respect to the Confirmation Debts is July 21, 2025. All professionals must file final requests for payment of Professional Fee Claims by no later than the Professional Fee Application Deadline to receive final approval of the fees and expenses incurred in these Chapter 11 Cases.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE THAT the Plan and its provisions are binding on the Debtors (including TopCo), any Holder of a Claim or Equity Interest and such Holder's respective successors and assigns, whether or not the Claim or Equity Interest of such Holder is impaired under the Plan, and whether or not such Holder or Entity voted to accept the Plan.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE THAT copies of the Plan, the Non-TopCo Confirmation Order, the TopCo Confirmation Order, and other documents and the Chapter 11 Cases (as defined in the Plan) may be obtained at no charge from the Debtors' Claims Agent by

(a) visiting the Debtors' restructuring website at <https://cases.a.kroll.com/FRG>, (b) writing to: Franchise Group, Inc. Ballot Processing Center, c/o Kroll Restructuring Administration LLC, 850 3rd Avenue, Suite 412, Brooklyn, NY 11232, (c) emailing FRGinfo@ra.kroll.com (with "Franchise Group Solicitation Inquiry" in the subject line), or (d) calling the Debtors' Claims Agent at (844) 285-4564 (U.S./Canada toll free) or +1 (646) 937-7751 (International). You may also obtain copies of any pleadings filed in these Chapter 11 Cases at a fee via PACER at <https://ecf.deb.uscourts.gov/>. Dated: July 3, 2025, Wilmington, Delaware, */s/ Allison S. Mielke* YOUNG CONAWAY STARGATT & TAYLOR, LLP, Edmon L. Morton (Del. No. 3856), Matthew B. Lunn (Del. No. 4119), Allison S. Mielke (Del. No. 5934), Sheila Borovinskaya (Del. No. 6758), Rodney Square, 1000 North King Street, Wilmington, Delaware 19801, Telephone: (302) 571-6600, Facsimile: (302) 571-1253, Email: emorton@yst.com, mlunn@yst.com, amielke@yst.com, sborovinskaya@yst.com, Go Counsel to the Debtors and Debtors' Go Counsel, and KIRKLAND & ELLIS LLP, KIRKLAND & ELLIS INTERNATIONAL LLP, Joshua A. Sussberg, P.C. (admitted pro hac vice), Nicole L. Greenblatt, P.C. (admitted pro hac vice), Derek I. Hunter (admitted pro hac vice), 601 Lexington Avenue, New York, New York 10022, Telephone: (212) 466-8800, Facsimile: (212) 466-4900, Email: joshua.sussberg@kirkland.com, nicole.greenblatt@kirkland.com, derek.hunter@kirkland.com, and Mark McKane, P.C. (admitted pro hac vice), 555 California Street, San Francisco, California 94104, Telephone: (415) 439-1400, Facsimile: (415) 439-1500, Email: mark.mckane@kirkland.com, Go-Counsel to the Debtors and Debtors' Go Counsel.

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